

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 -2. (Canceled).

3. (Original) A fixing device comprising:

a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing toner on paper;

a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a side heater disposed within the heat roller, the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction from the diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof;

a first temperature detection element that detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater;

a second temperature detection element that is positioned in phase with the first temperature detection element in the circumferential direction of the heat roller, and detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater, and

a control section that controls, when driving of the heat roller is started by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the center heater and the first temperature detection element, and also controls turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of

the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection element.

4. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 3, wherein after passage of a predetermined time period from the start of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism, the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using the reference control-target value as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, without making said correction.

5. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 3, wherein the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value on the basis of a correction value that varies stepwise in accordance with an elapsed time from the start of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism.

6. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 3, wherein the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value on the basis of a correction value that varies continuously in accordance with an elapsed time from the start of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism.

7. (Original) A fixing device comprising:
a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing toner on paper;
a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a side heater disposed within the heat roller, the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction from the diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof;

a first temperature detection element that detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater;

a second temperature detection element that is positioned in phase with the first temperature detection element in the circumferential direction of the heat roller, and detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater; and

a control section that controls, when driving of the heat roller is stopped by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the center heater and the first temperature detection element, and also controls turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection element.

8. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein after passage of a predetermined time period from the stop of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism, the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using the reference control-target value as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, without making said correction.

9. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of

the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value on the basis of a correction value that varies stepwise in accordance with an elapsed time from the stop of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism.

10. (Original) The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein the control section controls turning the center heater or the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value on the basis of a correction value that varies continuously in accordance with an elapsed time from the stop of driving of the heat roller by the drive mechanism.

11. (Original) A fixing method for use in a fixing device including a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing toner on paper; a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller; a side heater disposed within the heat -roller, the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction from the diametrical center position of the heat roller; and a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof, the method comprising:

detecting a surface temperature of the heat roller at a first temperature detection position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater;

detecting a surface temperature of the heat roller at a second temperature detection position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater, the second temperature detection position being in phase with the first temperature detection position in the circumferential direction of the heat roller; and

controlling, when driving of the heat roller is started by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on, or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control target value for the

surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship is between the center heater and the first temperature detection position, and also controlling turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection position.

12. (Original) A fixing method for use in a fixing device including a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing toner on paper; a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller; a side heater disposed within the heat roller, the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction the diametrical center position heat roller; and a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof, the method comprising;

detecting a surface temperature of the heat roller at a first temperature detection position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater;

detecting a surface temperature of the heat roller at a second temperature detection position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater, the second temperature detection position being in phase with the first temperature detection position in the circumferential direction of the heat roller; and

controlling, when driving of the heat roller is stopped by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the center heater and the first temperature detection position, and also controlling turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value for the surface

temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection position.

13. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus that forms an image on paper, comprising:

a toner image forming section that forms a toner image on paper;

a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing on the paper the toner image which is formed on the paper by the toner image forming section;

a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a side heater disposed within the heat roller; the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction from the diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof;

a first temperature detection element that detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater; [[and]]

a second temperature detection element that is positioned in phase with the first temperature detection element in a circumferential direction of the heat roller, and detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater; and

a control section that controls, when driving of the heat roller is started by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the center heater and the first temperature detection element, and also controls turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of

the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection element.

14. (New) An image forming apparatus that forms an image on paper, comprising:

a toner image forming section that forms a toner image on paper;

a substantially cylindrical heat roller that is used for fixing on the paper the toner image which is formed on the paper by the toner image forming section;

a center heater disposed within the heat roller, the center heater being located at a center region in a longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a first direction from a diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a side heater disposed within the heat roller, the side heater being located at a side region in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller and at a position displaced in a second direction from the diametrical center position of the heat roller;

a drive mechanism that rotates the heat roller in a circumferential direction thereof;

a first temperature detection element that detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the center heater;

a second temperature detection element that is positioned in phase with the first temperature detection element in the circumferential direction of the heat roller, and detects a surface temperature of the heat roller at a position where a position in the longitudinal direction of the heat roller corresponds to the side heater; and

a control section that controls, when driving of the heat roller is stopped by the drive mechanism, turning the center heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting a reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the center heater and the first temperature detection element, and also controls

turning the side heater on or off using, as a control-target value of the surface temperature of the heat roller, a value that is obtained by correcting the reference control-target value for the surface temperature of the heat roller on the basis of a positional relationship between the side heater and the second temperature detection element.